June), the normal temperatures are generally high over Indian subcontinent. Occasionally the ambient temperatures over certain parts of the country rise above normal values depending on the meteorological conditions. Although, there is year to year variation in the occurrence of the scorching temperatures over defferent parts of the country, these conditions presently prevailing over various parts of the country are within the range of normally observed temperature fluctuations during this period of summer season.

(c) Under Recognition of Zoo Rules (Rule 24), it is mandatory for every zoo operator to ensure round the clock supply of portable water for drinking purposes in each cell/enclosure/cubicle of the animals. The Government of India provides financial assistance through the Central Zoo Authority and Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries", "Project Tiger" and "Project Elephant" to zoos and National parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, Tiger Reserves, Elephant Reserves, respectively for laying of water supply and power lines in the premises of zoos, and development of water holes and water harvesting structures in the natural habitats, to ensure adequate availability of water to the animals.

Air pollution in Delhi

3710. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a long term study has shown that Delhi has the most polluted air in the country, resulting in maximum number of people suffering from disorders like asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, chronic bronchitis and chromosomal abnormalities that may ultimately lead to cancer, when compared to other parts of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details with comparative chart for other metros and major cities of India; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to clean up the air in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with State Pollution Control Board (SPCB)/Pollution Control Committees (PCC) and institutions is monitoring ambient air quality at 326 locations covering various cities and towns. A statement indicating ambient air quality in certain identified metros and mega cities for last three years is at statement (*see* below). The monitored data indicates that levels of Sulphur Dioxide (SO_2) and Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_2) are within the National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

However, the values of Respirable Particulate Matter (RSPM) are higher than national standards at many locations. Presently, there are no conclusive reports indicating that a large number of people are suffering from various diseases due to air pollution in Delhi.

(c) Government have taken several steps for prevention and control of air pollution in metros and mega cities of the country including Delhi, which are as following:

* Notification of emission standards for industries and for vehicles under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986;
* Control of vehicular pollution through promotion of clean fuels and introduction of stringent emission norms at manufacturing stage;
* Introduction of Pollution Under Control (PUC) Certification system for in use vehicles;
* Preparation of city specific Action Plans for improvement of air quality; and
* Implementation of the Charter on Corporate Responsibility for Environmental Protection (CREP) for 17 categories of highly polluting industries.

Statement

Ambient Air Quality Data in Microgramme per Cubic Metre (Annual Averages of Residential Areas)

City Name	2003			2004			2005		
	SO_2	NO_2	RSPM	SO_2	NO_2	RSPM	SO_2	NO_2	RSPM
Agra	4	22	145	5	18	133	9	22	147
Ahmedabad	15	23	136	15	23	138	13	26	134
Bangalore	11	45	81	7*	61*	71*	9	44	68
Chennai	7	BDL	75	5	BDL	31	7	10	40
Delhi	10	38	127	10	40	131	10	44	115
Faridabad	10	29	216	8	21	152	8	20	148
Hyderabad	8	22	50	8	31	54	6	32	75
Jharia	16	63	-	14	67	202	18	50	156
Jodhpur	10	16	116	6	20	110	8	20	107
Kanpur	7	18	174	8	20	184	9	19	176
Kolkata	17	65	106	9	53	122	9	33	110
Lucknow	19	27	161	15	30	157	13	31	186
Mumbai	8	21	67	7	19	77	8	21	79
Patna	12	19	67	12	28	84	12	35	104
Pune	35	73	164	31	53	137	24	37	103
Solapur	20	46	170	18	41	144	18	39	129
Varanasi	14	15	97	16	17	111	16	18	102

Source: Data as reported by CPCB/SPCBs/NEERI/Agencies under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme

Note: '-' Data not available

BDL - Below Detection Limit (*i.e.* less than 4 micrograms per cubic metre for SO_2 and less than 9 micrograms per cubic metre for NO_2).

*-Data for 2005 for, Patna, Kanpur, Pune, and Varanasi is average of data available as on date.

National Ambient Air Quality Standard for Residential Areas (Annual average) for SO_2, NO_2 and RSPM=60 microgramme per cubic metre.

*-Data for Bangalore is average of Jan. to Aug., 2004.

Persons Convicted for Poaching

3711. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons convicted for poaching under Wild Life Protection Act in different States since the date of enforcement of the Act;

(b) the number of persons acquitted or discharged for the offences of poaching, State-wise; and

(c) the number of persons convicted for killing protected species, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

Study regarding increasing Pollution in Yamuna

†3712. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pollution Control Research Institute has conducted or propose to conduct a deep study with regard to increasing pollution in the Yamuna river;

(b) if so, the outcomes thereof and the recommendations made in the said study;

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(d) the effective steps being taken by Government to check the increasing pollution in the yamuna river?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Pollution control Research Institute at Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (Hardwar) has not

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.